

Amendment No. 1 to SB1854

Gresham
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 1854

House Bill No. 1686*

by deleting all language after the caption and substituting instead the following:

WHEREAS, the Knox County School System and teachers piloted a pre-kindergarten and kindergarten portfolio student assessment system during the 2016-2017 school year; and

WHEREAS, the overwhelming majority of teachers in the Knox County School System responded positively to the developmental appropriateness and methods used in the previously piloted portfolio student assessment system; and

WHEREAS, when surveyed, teachers agreed that the previously piloted portfolio student assessment system accurately measured student achievement and growth; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Education, in following state law that was passed in 2015, subsequently increased the standards for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten, which resulted in a significant change to the portfolio student assessment and reporting system; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to ensure reliable and measurable student growth scores for use in teacher evaluations for educators using the pre-kindergarten and kindergarten portfolio student assessment system, and due to the unfortunate vendor failures with previous assessment changes, and in an effort to bring confidence to the new pre-kindergarten and kindergarten portfolio student assessment system; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-105(e), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and substituting instead:

(e) LEAs that receive pre-kindergarten program approval under §§ 49-6-103 - 49-6-110 shall utilize the pre-k/kindergarten growth portfolio model approved by the state board of education in the evaluation of pre-kindergarten and kindergarten teachers

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pursuant to § 49-1-302; provided, however, that for the 2017-2018 school year, employment termination and compensation decisions for pre-kindergarten or kindergarten teachers shall not be based solely on data generated by the portfolio model.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-105, is amended by adding the following as new subsections:

(f) Each LEA shall notify all teachers evaluated using a growth portfolio model of training and professional development opportunities available on growth portfolio models.

(g) Prior to the 2018-2019 school year, the department of education shall study the pre-k/kindergarten growth portfolio model, including the portfolio rubric, the method for the collection and submission of student work artifacts, and scoring. The study shall include feedback from pre-kindergarten and kindergarten teachers, as well as other teachers using other growth portfolio models.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.